

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 (currently amended): A method of routing data between IP-based telephone extensions

5 in a telecommunications network, the method comprising:

~~the telecommunications network comprising:~~

providing a first remote telephone group containing a first set of IP-based
telephones and a second remote telephone group containing a second set of
IP-based telephones, the first and second remote telephone groups being
10 connected to the Internet through first and second IP sharing devices,
respectively;

~~a first Internet Protocol (IP) sharing device for sharing connection to a first IP~~
~~address;~~

~~a first remote telephone group containing a first set of IP-based telephones, the first~~
15 ~~remote telephone group being connected to the Internet through the first IP~~
~~sharing device, and each of the IP-based telephones in the first remote~~
~~telephone groups being assigned a unique identifier;~~

~~a second IP sharing device for sharing connection to a second IP address;~~

~~a second remote telephone group containing a second set of IP-based telephones,~~
20 ~~the second remote telephone group being connected to the Internet through the~~
~~second IP sharing device, and each of the IP-based telephones in the second~~
~~remote telephone groups being assigned a unique identifier;~~

connecting a main host eonnected to the Internet for controlling data traffic over the
Internet between the first remote telephone group and the second remote
25 telephone group; and

connecting a remote host eonnected to the Internet through the first IP sharing
device for linking the first remote telephone group to the second remote
telephone group and main host;

~~the method comprising:~~

the remote host connecting with and logging into the main host;
generating data packets with a source IP-based telephone in the first remote
telephone group for contacting a destination IP-based telephone in the second
remote telephone group;
5 transmitting the data packets to the remote host;
the remote host transmitting the data packets to the main host; and
the main host transmitting the data packets to the destination IP-based telephone in
the second remote telephone group for establishing communication between
the source IP-based telephone in the first remote telephone group and the
10 destination IP-based telephone in the second remote telephone group.

2 (original): The method of claim 1 further comprising:

generating data packets with a source IP-based telephone in the second remote
telephone group for contacting a destination IP-based telephone in the first
15 remote telephone group;
transmitting the data packets to the main host;
the main host transmitting the data packets to the remote host; and
the remote host transmitting the data packets to the destination IP-based telephone
in the first remote telephone group for establishing communication between
20 the source IP-based telephone in the second remote telephone group and the
destination IP-based telephone in the first remote telephone group.

3 (original): The method of claim 1 further comprising:

generating data packets with a source IP-based telephone in the first remote
25 telephone group for contacting a destination IP-based telephone in the first
remote telephone group;
the remote host contacting the main host to request connection of the source
IP-based telephone and the destination IP-based telephone;
the main host contacting the remote host to grant connection of the source IP-based

telephone and the destination IP-based telephone;
the remote host establishing a direct connection between the source IP-based
telephone and the destination IP-based telephone; and
the source IP-based telephone communicating with the destination IP-based
5 telephone.

4 (original): The method of claim 3 wherein the source IP-based telephone
communicates with the destination IP-based telephone locally without connecting
to the Internet.

10 5 (original): The method of claim 1 further comprising:

terminating connection between the remote host and the main host;
generating data packets with a source IP-based telephone in the first remote
telephone group for contacting a destination IP-based telephone in the first
15 remote telephone group;

the remote host establishing a direct connection between the source IP-based
telephone and the destination IP-based telephone; and
the source IP-based telephone communicating with the destination IP-based
20 telephone.

6 (original): The method of claim 5 wherein the source IP-based telephone
communicates with the destination IP-based telephone locally without connecting
to the Internet.

25 7 (original): The method of claim 1 wherein the remote host performs bandwidth control
functions for the first remote telephone group.

8 (original): The method of claim 1 wherein the remote host sends duplicate copies of
system information received from the main host to each of the IP-based telephones

in the first remote telephone group.

9 (currently amended): The method of claim 1 wherein the first and second IP sharing
devices each share a connection to a ~~addresses are~~ dynamic IP address ~~addresses~~.

5

10 (currently amended): A method of routing data between IP-based telephone
extensions in a telecommunications network, the method comprising: ~~the~~
~~telecommunications network comprising:~~

providing first remote telephone group containing a first set of IP-based telephones

10

and a second remote telephone group containing a second set of IP-based
telephones, the first and second remote telephone groups being connected to
the Internet through first and second IP sharing devices, respectively;

~~a first Internet Protocol (IP) sharing device for sharing connection to a first IP~~
~~address;~~

15

~~a first remote telephone group containing a first set of IP-based telephones, the first~~
~~remote telephone group being connected to the Internet through the first IP~~
~~sharing device, and each of the IP-based telephones in the first remote~~
~~telephone groups being assigned a unique identifier;~~

~~a second IP sharing device for sharing connection to a second IP address;~~

20

~~a second remote telephone group containing a second set of IP-based telephones,~~
~~the second remote telephone group being connected to the Internet through the~~
~~second IP sharing device, and each of the IP-based telephones in the second~~
~~remote telephone groups being assigned a unique identifier;~~

connecting a main host ~~e~~connected to the Internet for controlling data traffic over the

25

Internet between the first remote telephone group and the second remote
telephone group;

connecting a first remote host ~~e~~connected to the Internet through the first IP sharing
device for linking the first remote telephone group to the second remote
telephone group and main host; ~~and~~

connecting a second remote host ~~connected~~ to the Internet through the second IP sharing device for linking the second remote telephone group to the first remote telephone group and main host;

~~the method comprising:~~

5 the first and second remote hosts connecting with and logging into the main host;
generating data packets with a source IP-based telephone in the first remote telephone group for contacting a destination IP-based telephone in the second remote telephone group;

transmitting the data packets to the first remote host;

10 the first remote host transmitting the data packets to the second remote host; and
the second remote host transmitting the data packets to the destination IP-based telephone in the second remote telephone group for establishing communication between the source IP-based telephone in the first remote telephone group and the destination IP-based telephone in the second remote
15 telephone group.

11 (original): The method of claim 10 further comprising:

generating data packets with a source IP-based telephone in the second remote telephone group for contacting a destination IP-based telephone in the first
20 remote telephone group;

transmitting the data packets to the second remote host;

the second remote host transmitting the data packets to the first remote host; and

the first remote host transmitting the data packets to the destination IP-based telephone in the first remote telephone group for establishing communication
25 between the source IP-based telephone in the second remote telephone group and the destination IP-based telephone in the first remote telephone group.

12 (original): The method of claim 10 further comprising:

generating data packets with a source IP-based telephone in the first remote

telephone group for contacting a destination IP-based telephone in the first
remote telephone group;
the first remote host contacting the main host to request connection of the source
IP-based telephone and the destination IP-based telephone;
5 the main host contacting the first remote host to grant connection of the source
IP-based telephone and the destination IP-based telephone;
the first remote host establishing a direct connection between the source IP-based
telephone and the destination IP-based telephone; and
the source IP-based telephone communicating with the destination IP-based
10 telephone.

13 (original): The method of claim 12 wherein the source IP-based telephone
communicates with the destination IP-based telephone locally without connecting
to the Internet.

15
14 (original): The method of claim 10 further comprising:
terminating connection between the first remote host and the main host;
generating data packets with a source IP-based telephone in the first remote
telephone group for contacting a destination IP-based telephone in the first
20 remote telephone group;
the first remote host establishing a direct connection between the source IP-based
telephone and the destination IP-based telephone; and
the source IP-based telephone communicating with the destination IP-based
telephone.

25
15 (original): The method of claim 14 wherein the source IP-based telephone
communicates with the destination IP-based telephone locally without connecting
to the Internet.

16 (original): The method of claim 10 wherein the first and second remote hosts perform bandwidth control functions for the first and second remote telephone groups, respectively.

5 17 (original): The method of claim 10 wherein the first and second remote hosts send duplicate copies of system information received from the main host to each of the IP-based telephones in the first and second remote telephone groups, respectively.

10 18 (currently amended): The method of claim 10 wherein the first and second IP sharing devices each share a connection to a ~~addresses are~~ dynamic IP address ~~addresses~~.